

LET THE RECORD SHOW that prior to the swearing of witnesses, inquiry was made by the Examiner as to the posture of the case and found that the parties were at issue. Conrad W. Varner is Solicitor for the Plaintiffs.

ALBERT JOSEPH SMOTHERS, the Plaintiff, on his own behalf, after first being duly sworn, deposes and says:

By Mr. Sheffield:

Q. Will you state your full name, your age and your residence please?

A. Albert Joseph Smothers, I was born on December 29, 1893, and live in Knoxville, Frederick County, Maryland.

Q. You are one of the complainants in this case?

A. Yes.

Mr. Sheffield: Thank you. Go right ahead.

By Mr. Varner:

Q. Mr. Smothers, you filed a Bill of Complaint in this case to quiet title to certain real property which is described in a deed recorded in Liber CM 4, folio 4, exhibit A in this case. Is that the property which you are claiming to be yours?

A. Yes, it is the property.

Q. This is a deed which has been properly transferred from Mary D. Gouverneur to Barney Howard, is that correct?

A. Yes.

Q. Are you related to Barney Howard?

A. He was my grandfather.